THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Revised Road Map for Accelerating Disinvestment

828. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that this Department has submitted a revised road map for accelerating the disinvestment procedure to Cabinet Secretariat;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) by when a final decision is likely to be taken; and

(d) what further steps Government would like to take to keep up its commitment in this regard and achieve target of disinvestment set for the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) Disinvestment process is in various stages of implementation in several Companies. Govt. would make all efforts to achieve the disinvestment target for the current financial year.

CBI Probe against BBUNL Chief

829. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "CBI probe into bungling of BBUNL Chief sought" which appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated 25th June, 2000.

(b) if so, whether the charges as reported regarding purchase of bogies and coupler have been investigated;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report that wagon making PSUs will go in heavy losses due to wagon order at a very low rate; and

(e) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Government's attention has been drawn to reports regarding CBI probe into purchase of bogies & couplers bought as well as losses to PSUs manufacturing wagons due to very low rates. The Board of Directors of BBUNL is seized of the issue of purchase of bogies and couplers. Ministry of Railways places orders for wagons on competitive prices, determined on the basis of open tenders.

Suspension of Operation at RCW, Raniganj

830. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a notice has been issued on 30th June, 2000 declaring suspension of operation in the ""Refractory and Ceramic Works, Raniganj (Lalkuthi Works)" from 1st July, 2000; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) BIFR had sanctioned a rehabilitation package of M/s. Burn Standard Co. Ltd. on 16.4.1999. The main strategy for revival was to revive/revitalise the operations of the company's works only at Howrah, Burnpur and Salem. BIFR revival scheme did not envisage revival of 7 loss making refractoring units (LRUs). All the employees of these units were to be offered VRS and budgetary support of Rs. 9.00 crores each was to be provided during the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 as interest free non-plan assistance for payment of salary & wages to be recovered from sale of their assets. Notice of Suspension of operations in Raniganj and Lalkoti Works are therefore in conformity with BIFR revival scheme.

Closing down of unviable PSUs

831. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state: